
COINS

Uncle Sam set to sell uncut sheets of \$1 bills

By Roger Boye

For the first time since 1954, Uncle Sam will sell uncut sheets of \$1 bills to collectors, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has announced.

Sales start Oct. 26 with a 16-note sheet costing \$26 and a 32-note sheet costing \$45. Prices include postage and a matted form suitable for framing.

Treasury bosses had eliminated sales of uncut sheets during the Eisenhower administration, partly because of a lack of demand. But some sheets of silver certificates from the early 1950s fetch more than \$1,500 today as collector keepsakes.

Experts predict the new sheets won't become "hot items" because the government probably will be deluged with orders. The more uncut sheets printed and sold by Uncle Sam, the lower their value on the collector market.

Nevertheless, the sheets should make handsome displays in home libraries. And if an owner becomes tired of looking at a sheet, he can cut out individual bills and use them for spending money.

Each bill will be a "legal tender" series 1981 Federal Reserve note with an exceedingly high serial number. No other series 1981 bills in circulation will carry such high numbers.

To order, send a postal money order or cashiers check [personal checks won't be accepted] to Public Affairs Section, Sheet Sales Program, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, 14th and C Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20228.

Orders must be postmarked on or after Oct. 19.